infavour of M/s. U*B* Petrochemtcals Ltd. for setting up a 300,000 TPA capacity Nephtha Cracker at Visakhapatnam, after techno economic evaluation.

The allocation of the downstream units at Visakhapatnam is under the active consideration of Government and a decision will be taken soon.

SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: I would like to know from the hontale Minister what the progress of Visakhapatnam Chemical project is and whether the Planning Commission has cleared, it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over,

WRITTEN ANSWERS To QUESTIONS

A policy on food processing industry

*261. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to review the existing policy on food processing industry to make it export oriented;

(b) if so, whether the views of the State Governments would be considered before changing the existing policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of food processing units likely to be set up during the next five years in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The Policy will be in harmony with the new Industrial Policy. The Government of India already have a policy of assisting State Government Undertakings in establishing food processing industries either by themselves or in the joint/assisted sector.

(d) Since the Government of India does not set up food processing units, it is not possible to attempt any estimate. 289 RS.-2

Muddle on the vegetable oil front

263. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news reports which appeared in the Economic Times dated the 6th July, 1991 regarding muddle on the vegetable oil front;

(b) whether Government are aware that this situation arose after market intervention operations (MIO) were initiated; and

(c) what have been the total losses incurred from MIO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Market Intervention Operations (MIO) by NDDB has been in operation since April, 1989. MIO has nothing to do with present difficult edible oil situation.

(c) There have been no losses under MIO so far for NDDB.

Primary A.I.R. Channel at Kanpur

*264. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Un-starred Question 1092 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st March, 1990 and state:

(a) whether there is any primary channel of AIR at Kanpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to strengthen and upgrade AIR stations in Uttar Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS); (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.